

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEL AV 03045 030913Z POSS DUPE
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 AID-05 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 TRSE-00
XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 EPG-02 SIL-01 OMB-01 /084 W
-----030955Z 106272 /23

R 021442Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5953
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, ECON, IS
SUBJECT: CABINET CONSIDERS COMPTROLLER'S REPORT

REF: TEL AVIV 3020

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED: THE STATE COMPTROLLER'S ANNUAL
REPORT WAS A MAJOR SUBJECT OF YESTERDAY'S CABINET
MEETING. BELOW IS THE CABINET COMMUNIQUE ON THE
SUBJECT:

2. BEGIN TEXT: MINISTER GIDEON HAUSNER OPENED A
DISCUSSION OF THE STATE COMPTROLLER'S REPORT, CITING
A NUMBER OF EXAMPLES OF FAULTS WHICH WERE RECURRINGLY
POINTED TO IN THE STATE COMPTROLLER'S ANNUAL REPORTS,
WITHOUT BEING RIGHTED OVER THE YEARS. MR. HAUSNER
ALSO CONTENDED THAT THE CABINET'S RESOLUTIONS, IN
(THE WAKE OF) ITS DISCUSSIONS OF THE LAST TWO STATE
COMPTROLLER'S REPORTS--CONCERNING TIGHTENING OF THE
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INTERNAL CONTROL IN THE GOVERNMENT MINISTRIES AND
STEPPING UP THE TREASURY'S SUPERVISION AND FOLLOW-
UP OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CORRECTIONS REQUIRED
BY THE STATE COMPTROLLER'S REPORTS ON THE BODIES
INSPECTED--HAD NOT BEEN CARRIED OUT. AS TO THE
IDF, MINISTER HAUSNER NOTED THAT THE PRESENT
REPORT CONTAINED NO HARsher CRITICISM OF THE IDF

THAN (HAD BEEN THE CASE IN) THE PAST--BUT THE CRITICISM IN THIS SPHERE HAD BEEN EMPHASIZED BY THE COMMUNICATIONS MEDIA. AT THE SAME TIME, MR. HAUSNER REQUESTED EXPLANATIONS FROM THE CHIEF OF STAFF, FURTHER TO THOSE THE CHIEF OF STAFF HAD PROVIDED IN THE COMMUNICATIONS MEDIA.

3. THE FINANCE MINISTER DWELT ON THE IMPORTANCE OF THE WORK OF THE STATE COMPTROLLER, ADDING THAT ONE HAD TO ACT WITH A SENSE OF PROPORTION AND BALANCE AS REGARDS CRITICISM OF MATTERS WHICH STILL HAD TO BE CORRECTED, AS DISTINCT FROM FAULTS WHICH HAD ALREADY BEEN RIGHTED. THE MINISTER SAID THAT HUNDREDS OF FAULTS POINTED TO BY THE STATE COMPTROLLER IN THE PAST, HAD BEEN CORRECTED IN THE COURSE OF TIME. THE WORK OF IMPROVEMENT AND CORRECTION IS PROSAIC, AND GOES ON DAILY, WITHOUT PUBLICITY. INTER ALIA, MINISTER RABINOWITZ NOTED THAT THE NEED TO "FREEZE" THE NUMBER OF CIVIL SERVICE POSTS WAS ADVERSELY AFFECTING THE POSSIBILITIES OF STEPPING UP CONTROL AND SUPERVISION. AS TO THE CABINET'S RESOLUTIONS ON THIS SUBJECT, THE MINISTER STATED THAT ESTABLISHMENT OF THE UNIT FOR INTERNAL CONTROL OF THE GOVERNMENT'S FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION, INCLUDING IN ADDITION TO THE INTERNAL CONTROL WITHIN THE GENERAL STAFF BRANCHES, THE CONTROL DEPARTMENT HEADED BY MR. SHIMON AVIDAN OPERATES SUCCESSFULLY, AND HE, TOO, IS FREE TO INSPECT ALL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THAT NEEDS INSPECTING IN THE DEFENSE ESTABLISHMENT.

4. THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE ADDED THAT THE CABINET AND THE KNESSET ARE AWARE THAT THE DEFENSE BUDGET HAD NOT SUFFICED FOR THE ERECTION OF THE REQUIRED QUANTITY OF STORAGE STRUCTURES FOR ARMS AND PLANES, AND THAT THERE IS A SHORTAGE OF TECHNICIANS IN THE ARMY. THE GREATEST FAULT IS THE SHORTAGE OF MONEY AND OF MANPOWER--WHEREAS CONTROL SYSTEMS AND EFFORTS TO CORRECT WHAT NEEDS CORRECTING, ARE NOT LACKING. END TEXT

5. TODAY'S GOI PRESS BULLETIN CONTAINED A RESPONSE OF THE IDF GENERAL STAFF TO THE COMPTROLLER'S REPORT IN WHICH IT REPLIES POINT BY POINT TO THE CRITICISM. IN GENERAL THE IDF CLAIMED THAT MOST DEFICIENCIES AND DELINQUENCIES WERE ALREADY BEING CORRECTED BY THE TIME OF THE REPORT'S PUBLICATION.

END UNCLASSIFIED.

6. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE. COMMENT: THE
REPORT CONTINUES TO BE VENTILATED IN THE PRESS (TODAY'S
JERUSALEM POST TAKE CHIEF OF STAFF GUR TO TASK
FOR HIS SHARP REACTION IN ATTACKING THE REPORT
AND ITS AUTHORS) AND THE KNESSET IS MEETING IN
SPECIAL SESSION TODAY TO DISCUSS ITS FINDINGS.
THE OPPOSITION PARTIES CAN BE EXPECTED TO MILK
THE REPORT FOR ALL ITS WORTH.HOWEVER, ITS
IMMEDIATE AND DIRECT DAMAGE TO PERES AND THE
ALIGNMENT IS NOT EXPECTED TO BE SERIOUS. STILL,
ONE WONDERS IF THE CUMULATIVE EFFECT OF THE
NUMEROUS SCANDALS, REVELATIONS, ACCUSATIONS, ETC.,
MOSTLY INVOLVING THE ALIGNMENT ONE WAY OR
ANOTHER,IS NOT GOING TO TAKE ITS TOLL ON MAY 17.
DUNNIGAN
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NNN

Message Attributes

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